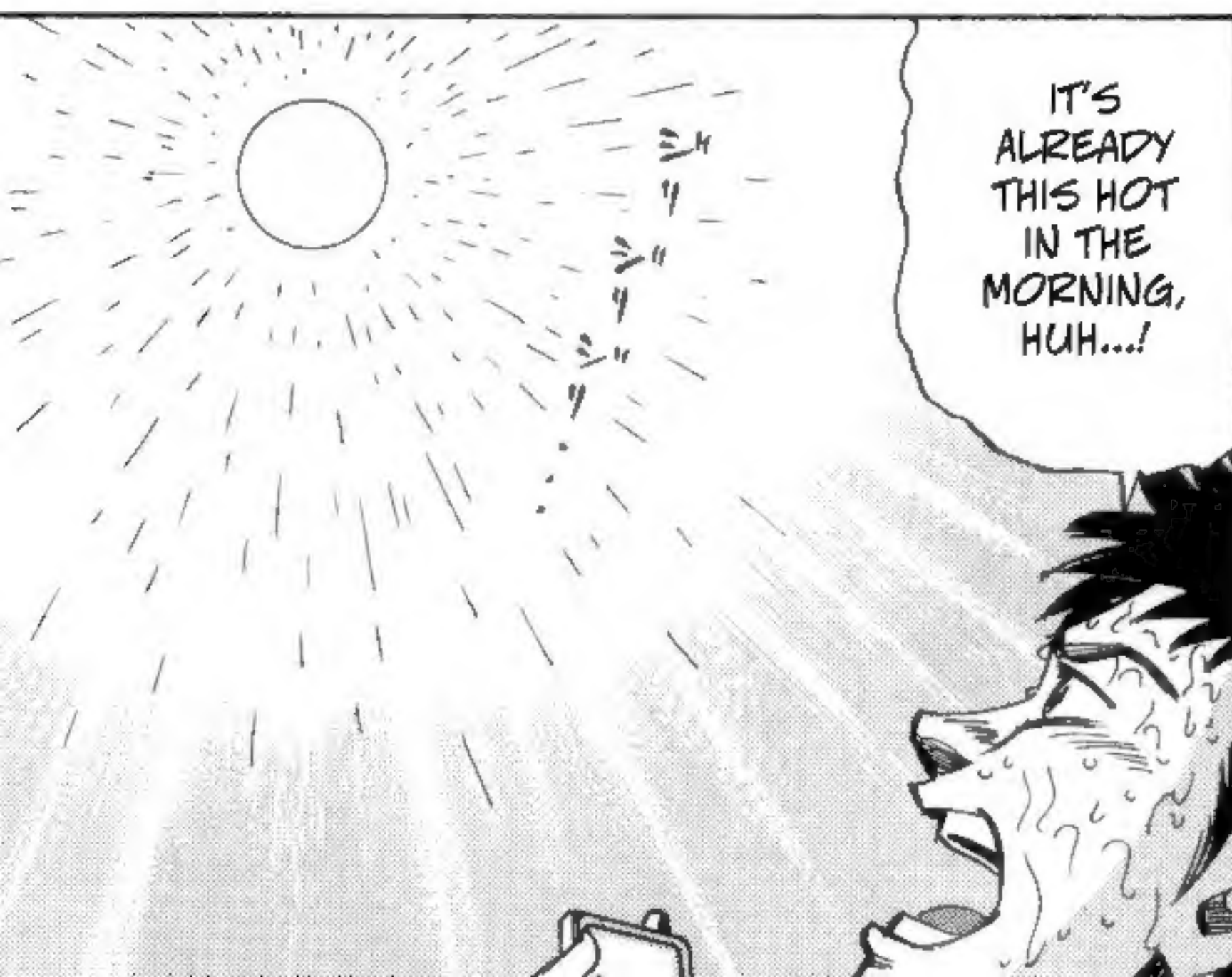
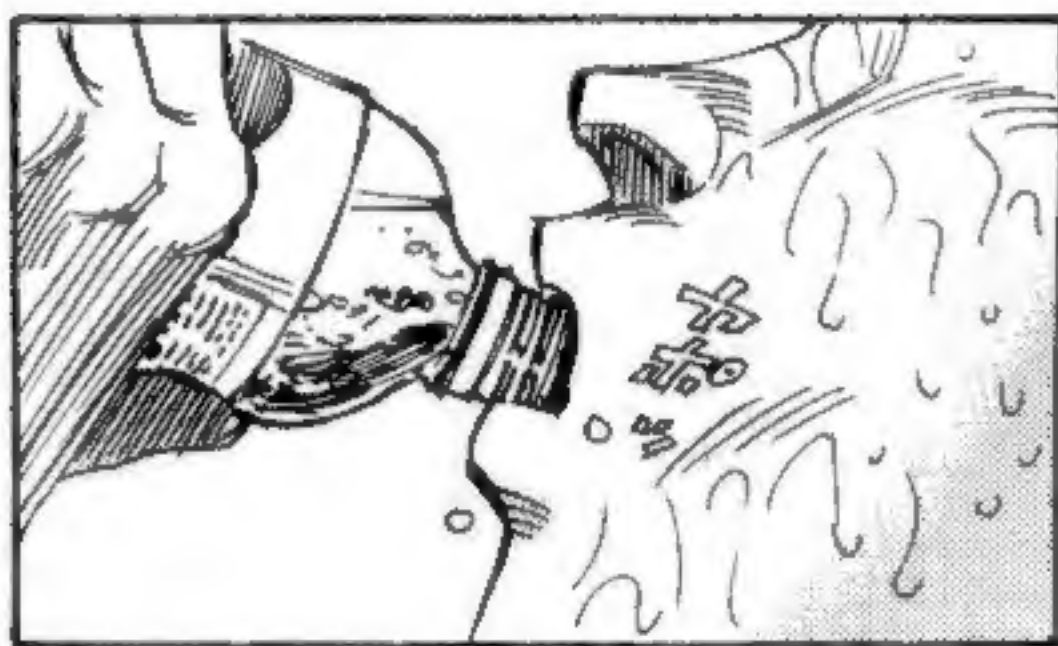
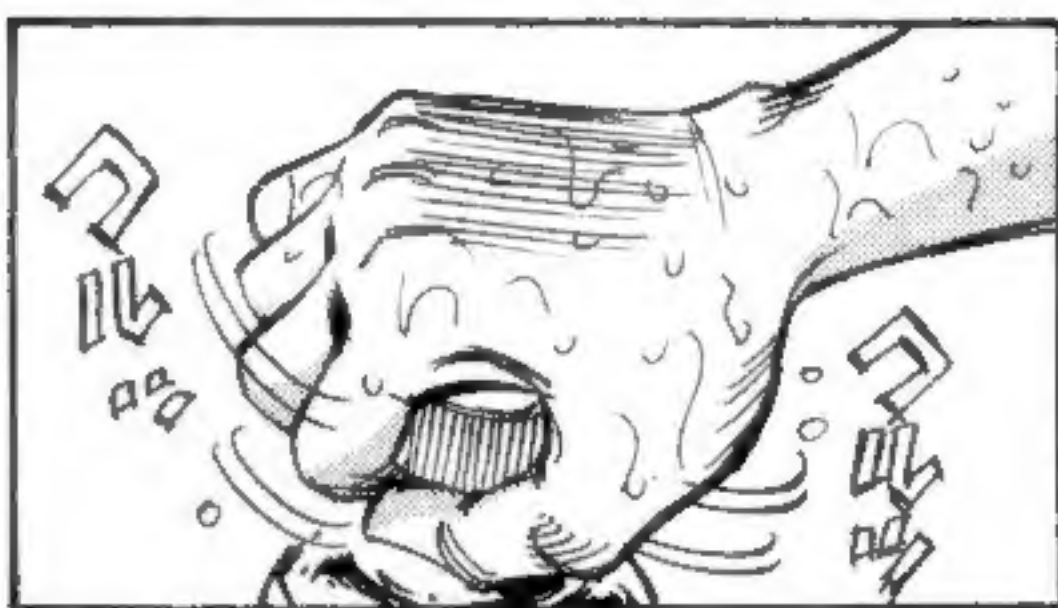


第8話
SLOW HOT
WIND



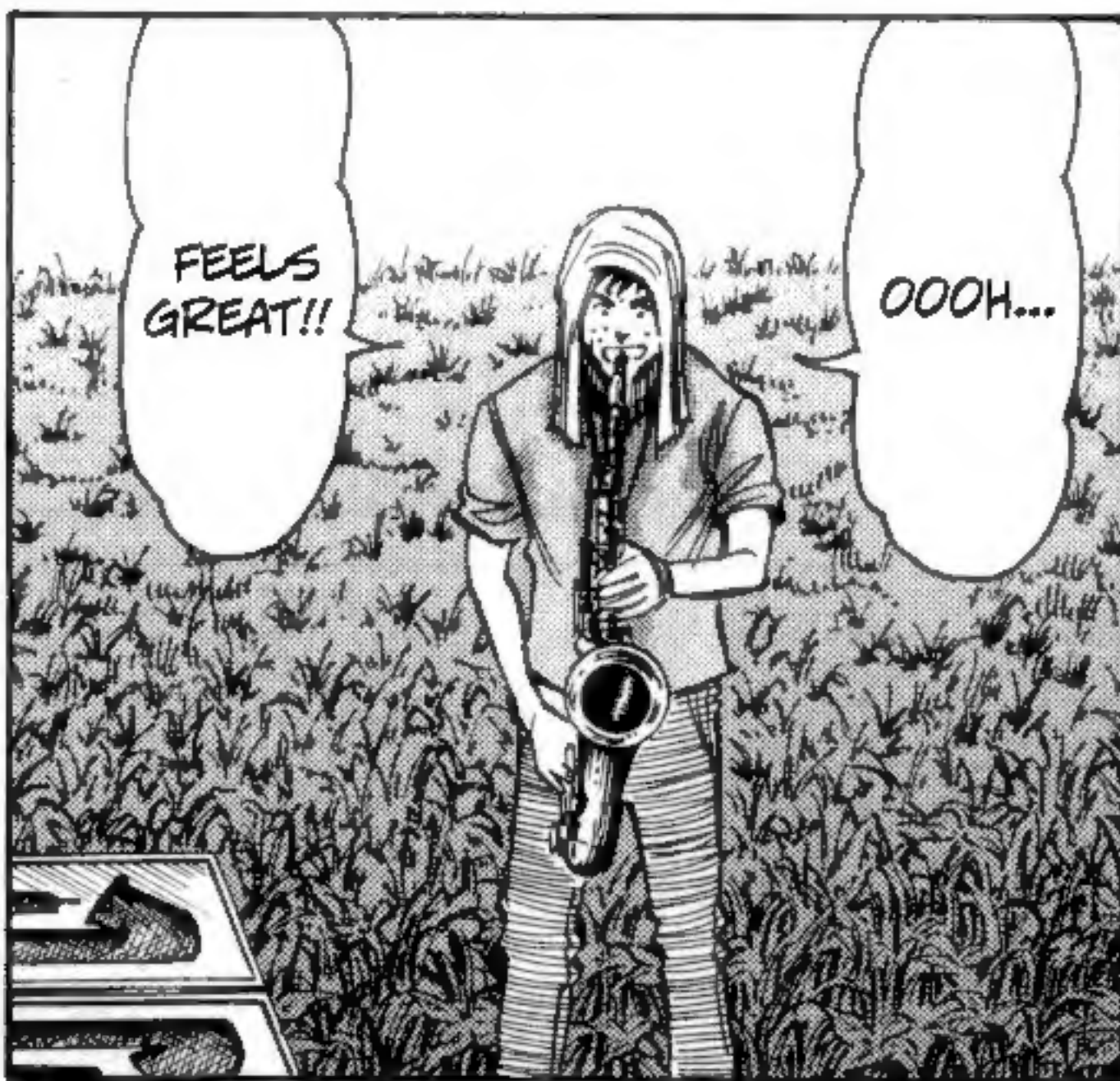


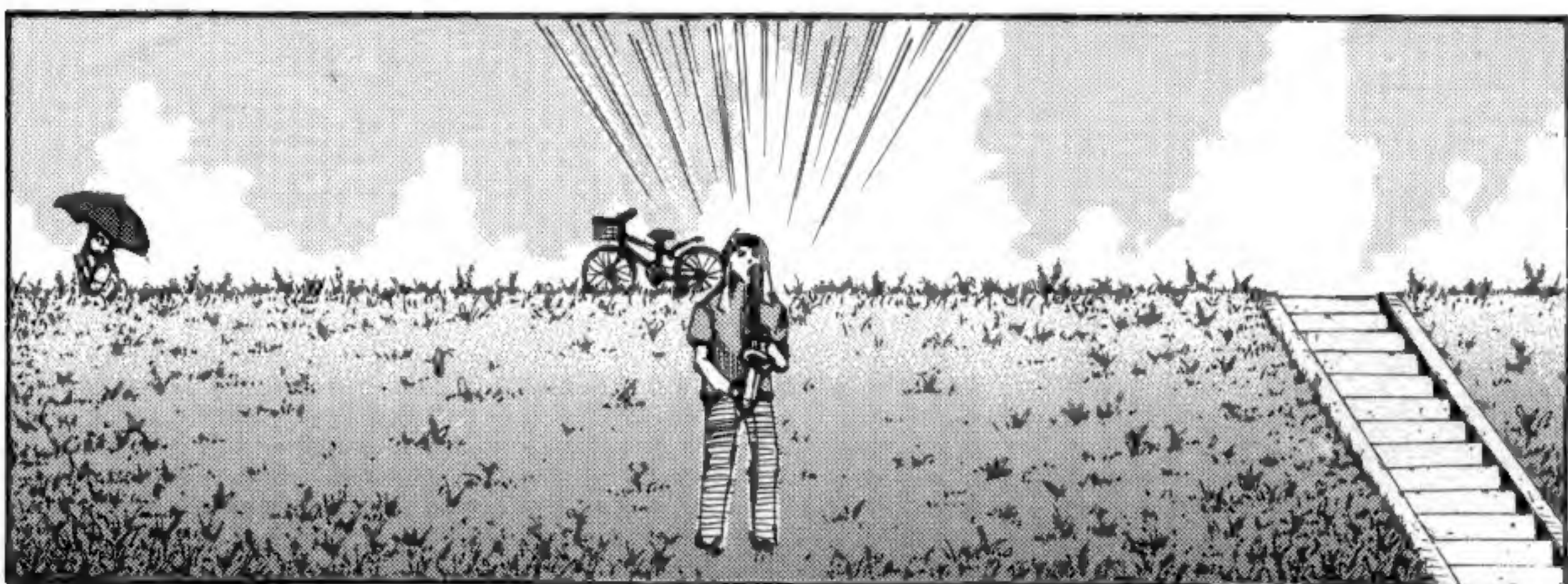
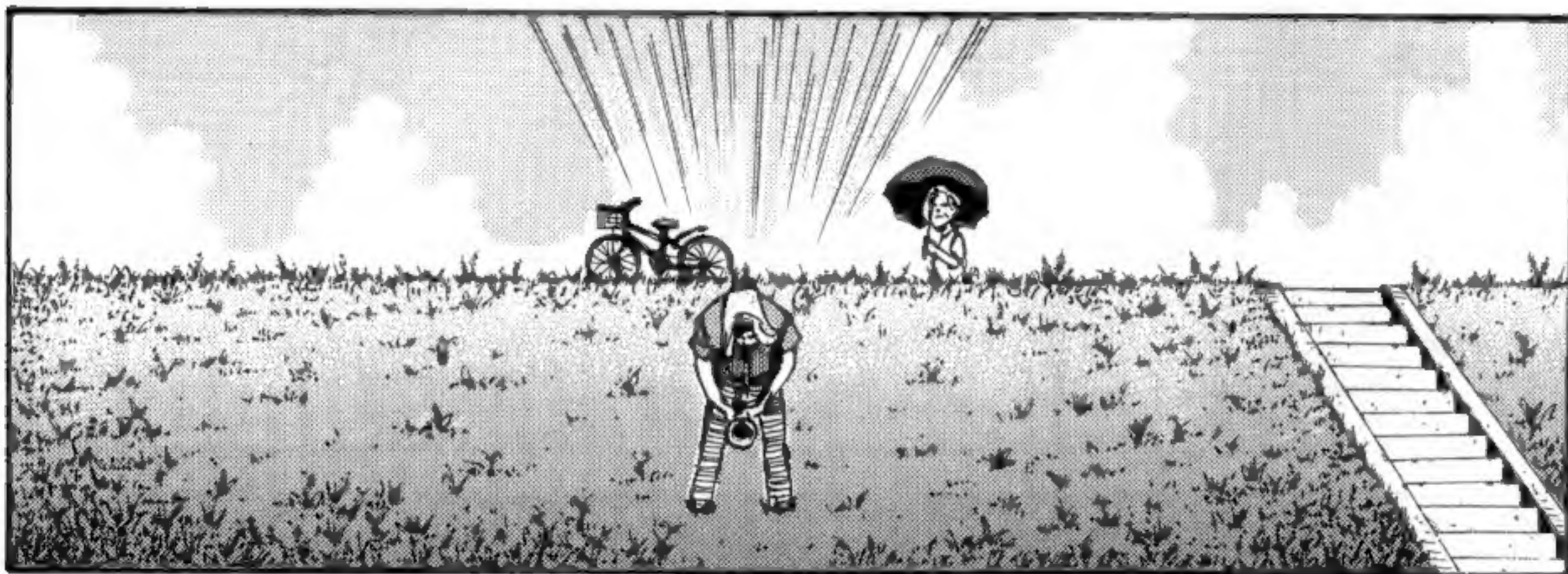
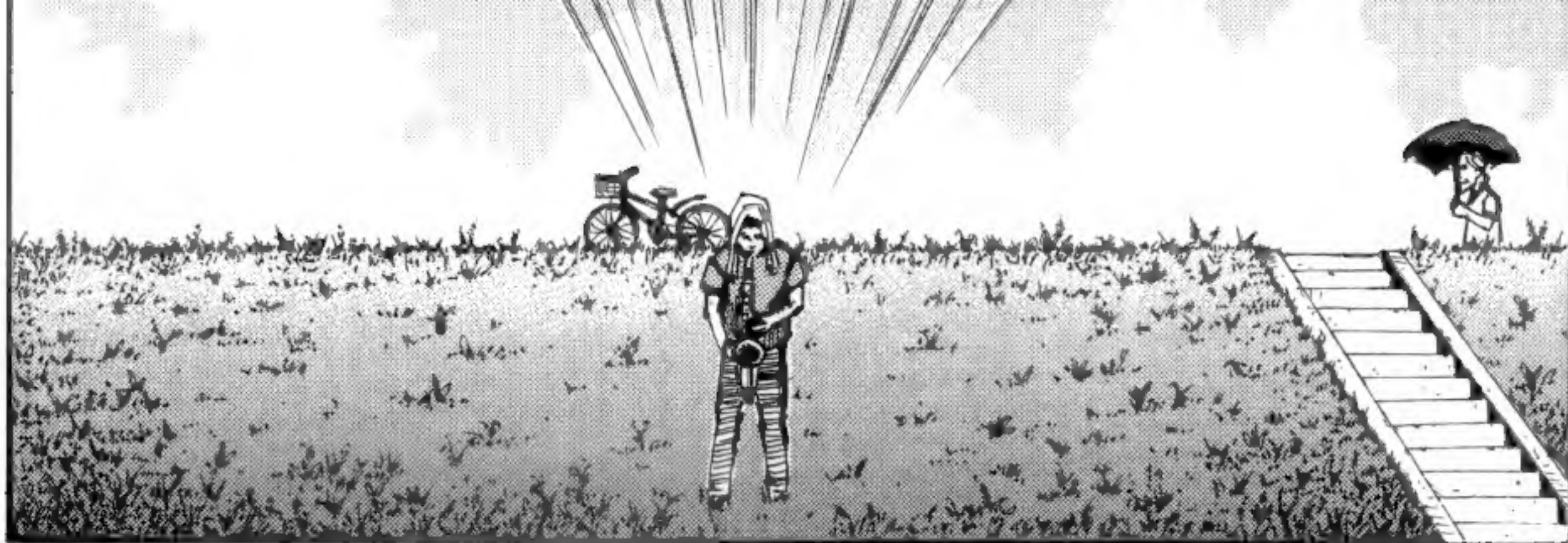
TL note: River systems deemed important for the national economy and people's lives are designated as "Class A river systems".

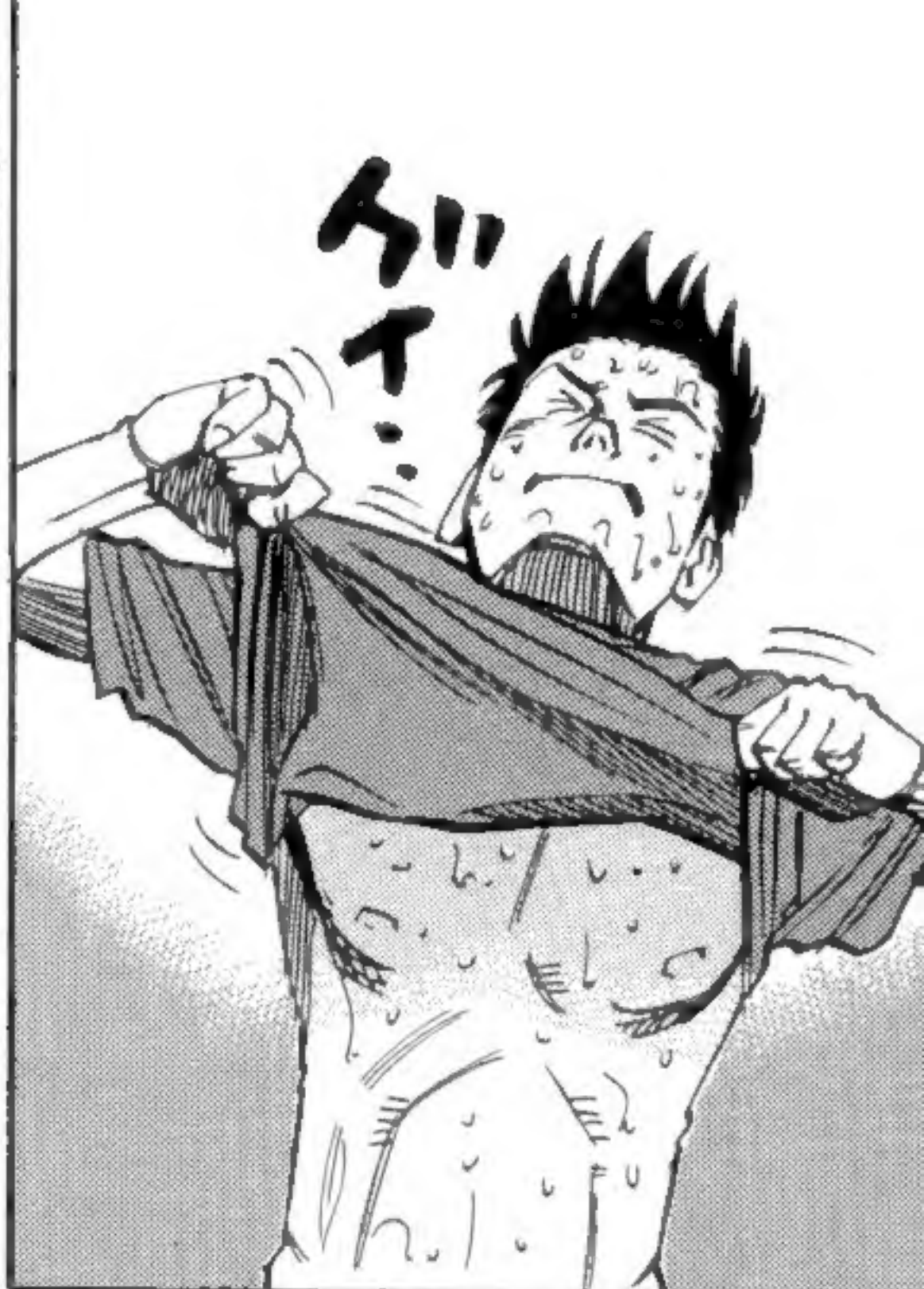


IT'S
ALREADY
THIS HOT
IN THE
MORNING,
HUH...!









6



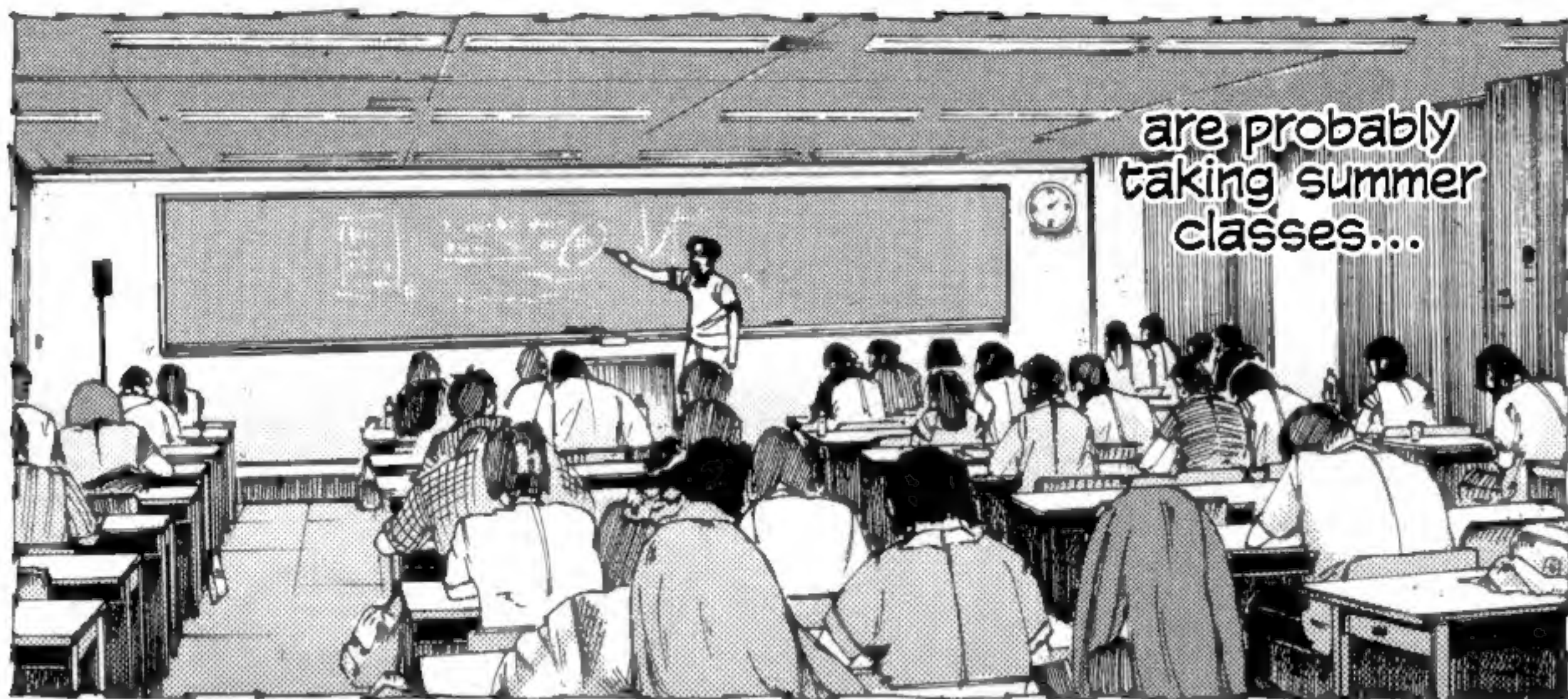


Well,
most of
them

Or going
camping...



Going
to the
sea,



are probably
taking summer
classes...

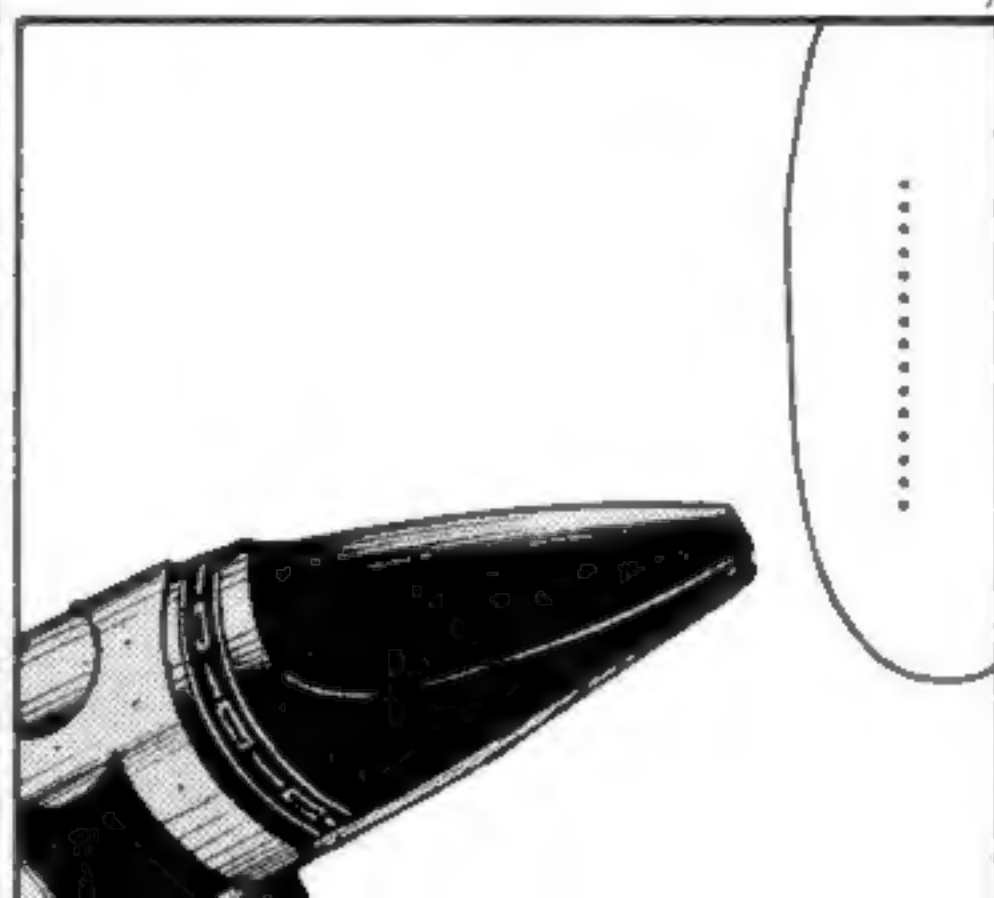


YOU'RE
TOO
LOUD!!

HEY,
YOU!!

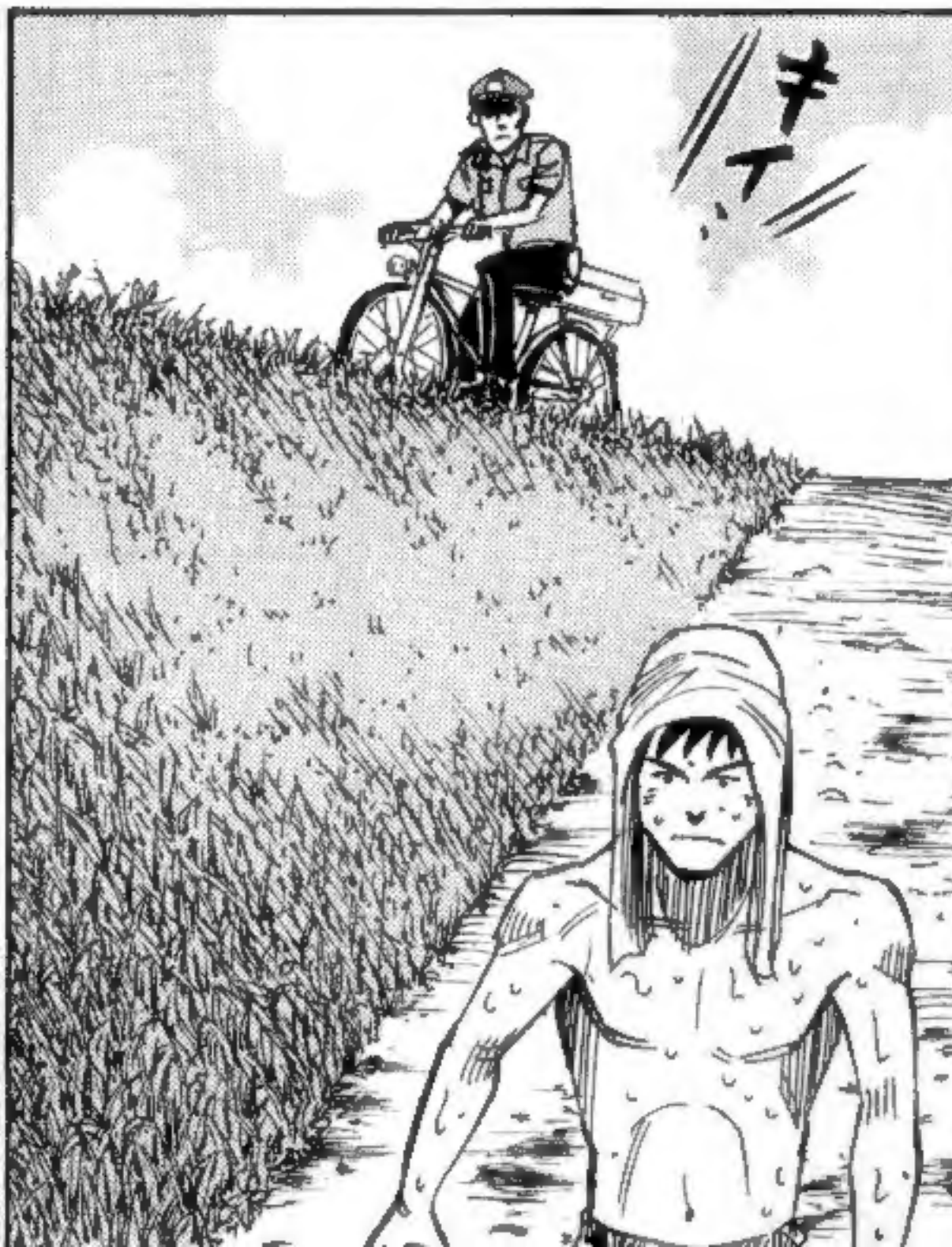


AS
FOR
ME...





8





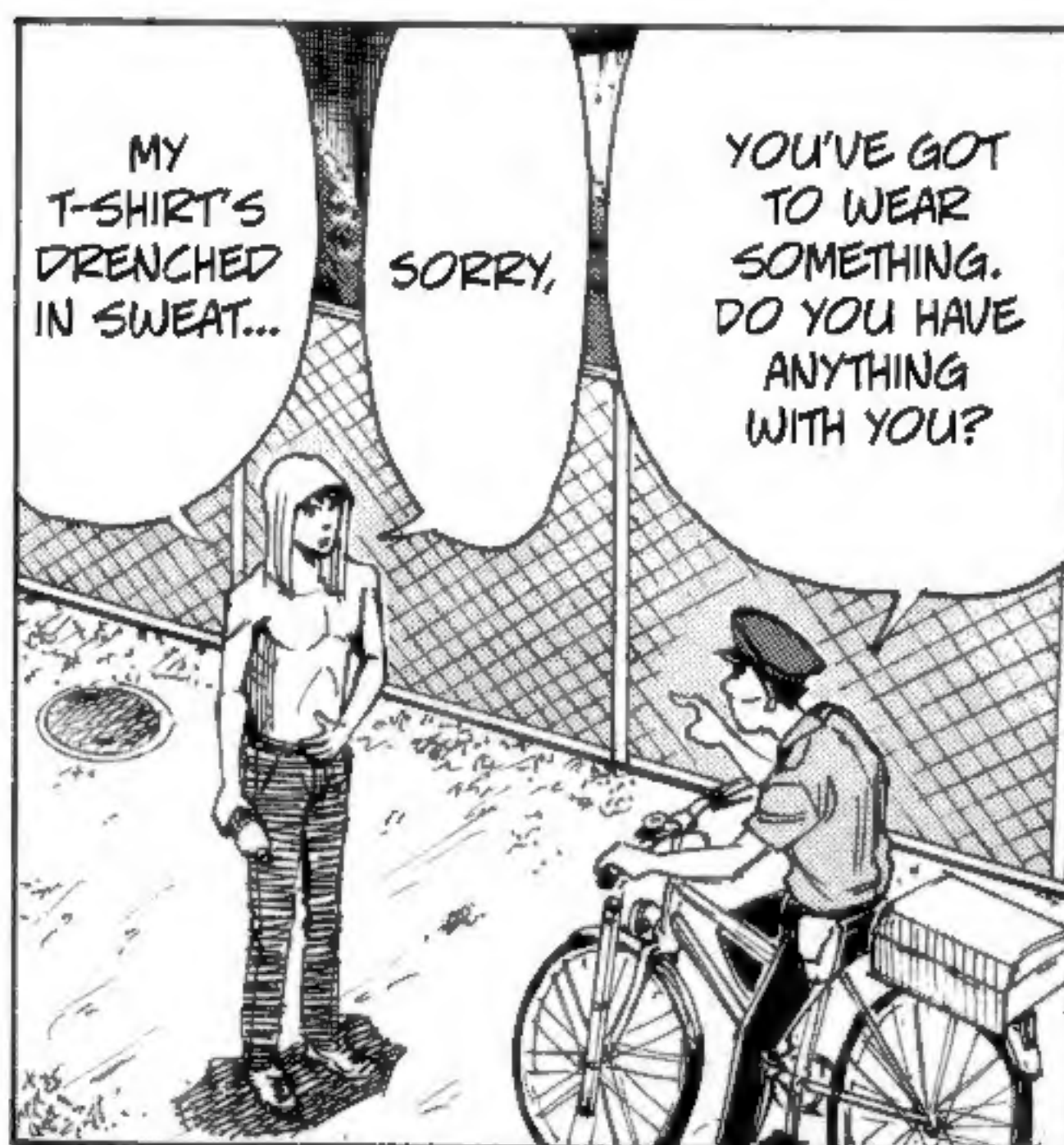
GETTING WATER.

AH...

WHADDYA THINK YOU'RE DOING?



HEY, YOU THERE.



MY T-SHIRT'S DRENCHED IN SWEAT...

SORRY,

YOU'VE GOT TO WEAR SOMETHING. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING WITH YOU?



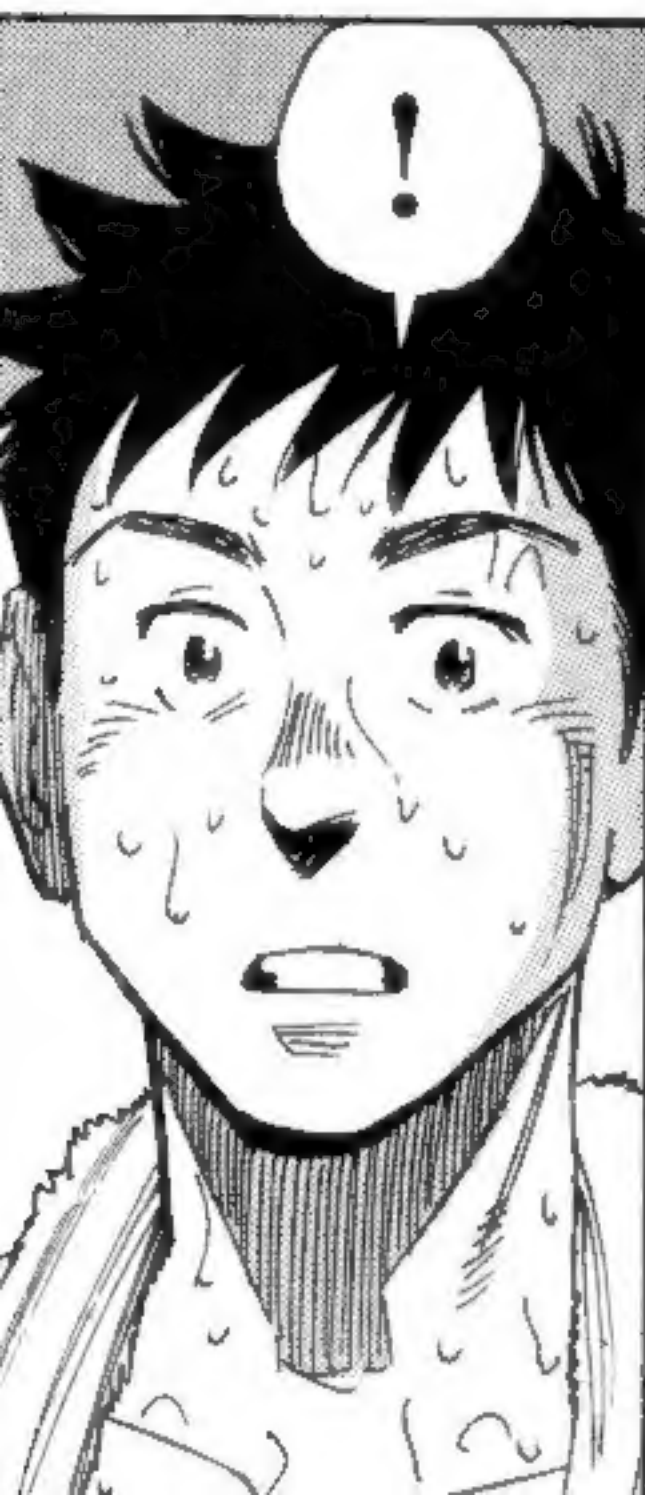
YOU CAN'T WALK AROUND NAKED.

NOT THAT, YOUR CLOTHES.



AAH...

HUH ...?



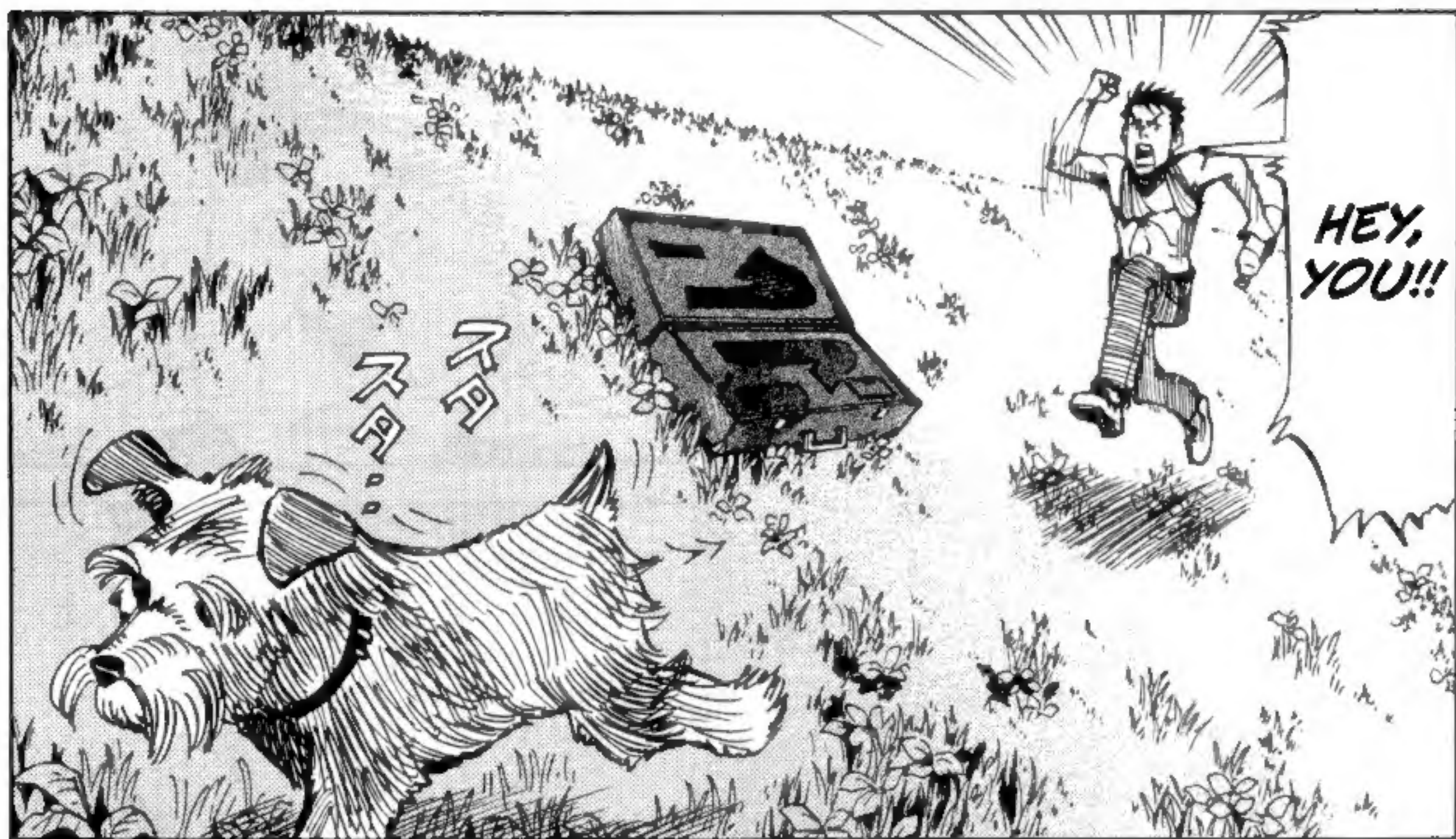
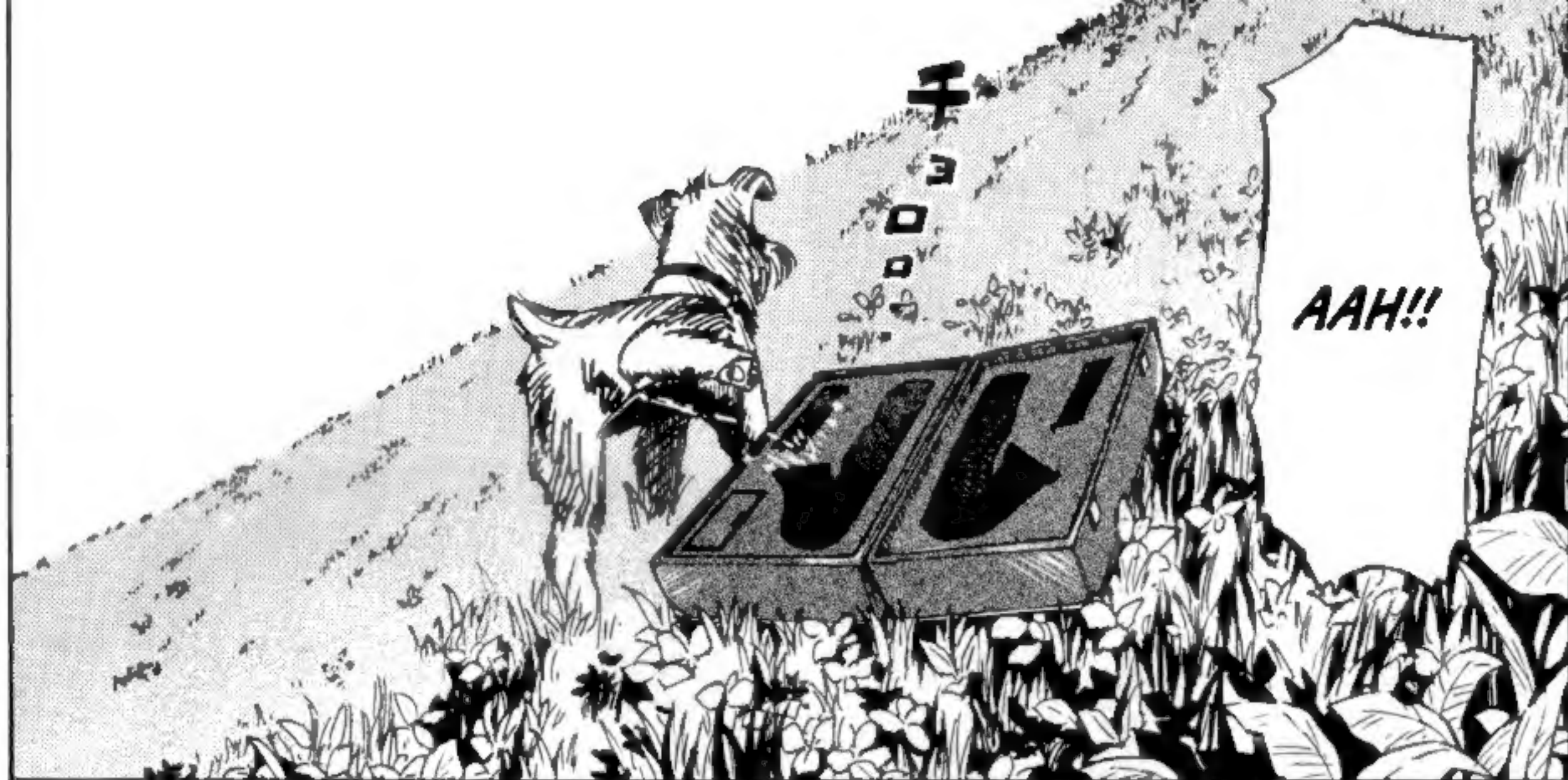
WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT ...

DAMN IT...



ANYWAY, CAN YOU TELL ME YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS?

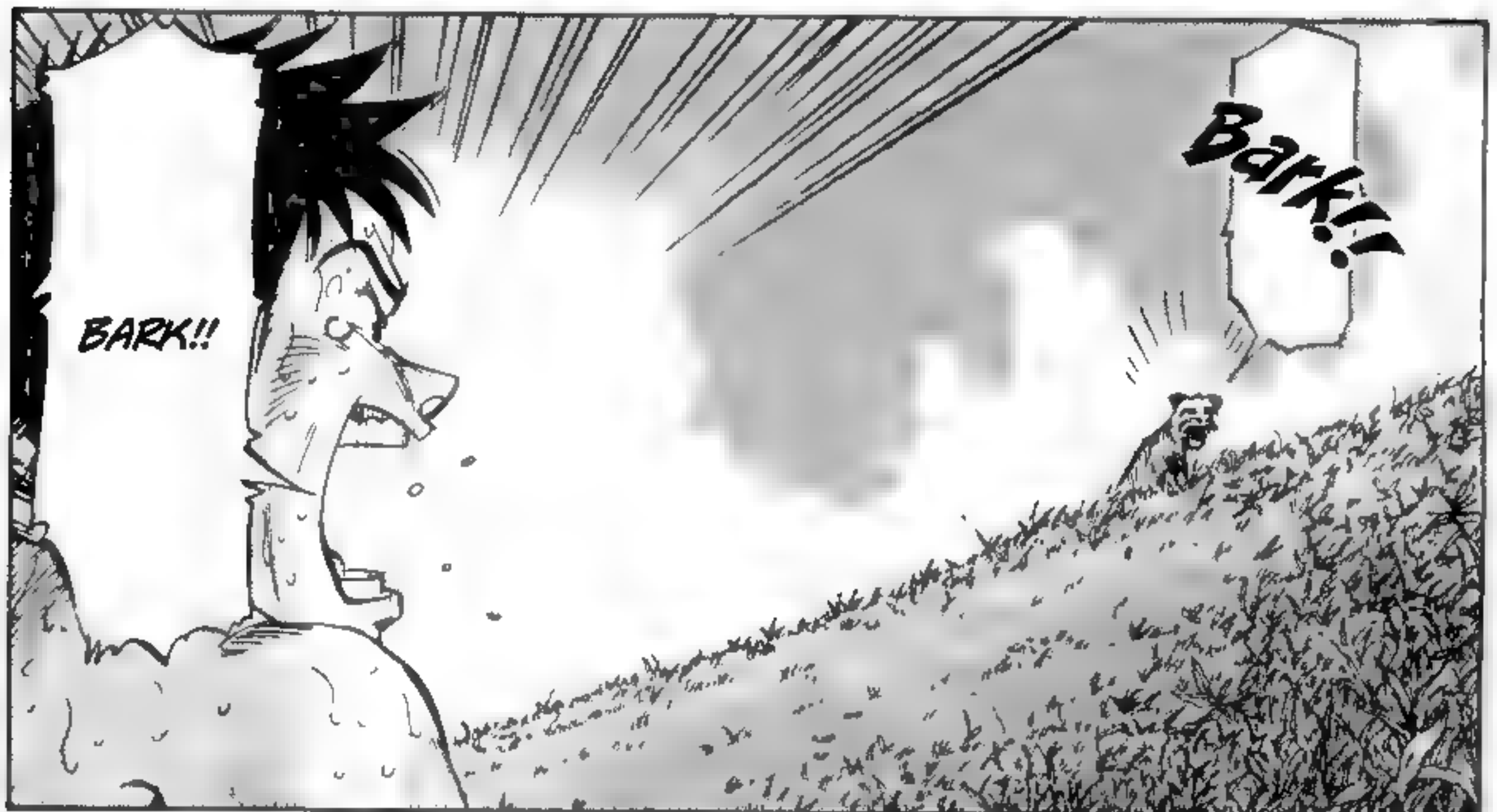
WHAA AT!?



10



BLUE GIANT 1





even if
the sun
is killing
me...

Even
if my
T-shirt
feels
gross,

I'm
playing.



*I'm
play-
ing!!*





WHAT A
WASTE OF
A GOOD
INSTRU-
MENT.



E-EX-
CUSE
ME?

NOT
FOR YOUR
INSTRUMENT,
NOR FOR
YOU.

THIS
SCORCH-
ING SUN
ISN'T
GOOD.



IT WOULDN'T
MATTER IF
IT WAS JUST
METAL, BUT IT
USES A LOT
OF CORK
AS WELL.



AND YOUR
SAXOPHONE
HAS A LOT
OF DELICATE
PARTS AS
WELL,
RIGHT?

METAL HAS
ELASTIC
PROPER-
TIES AFTER
ALL.

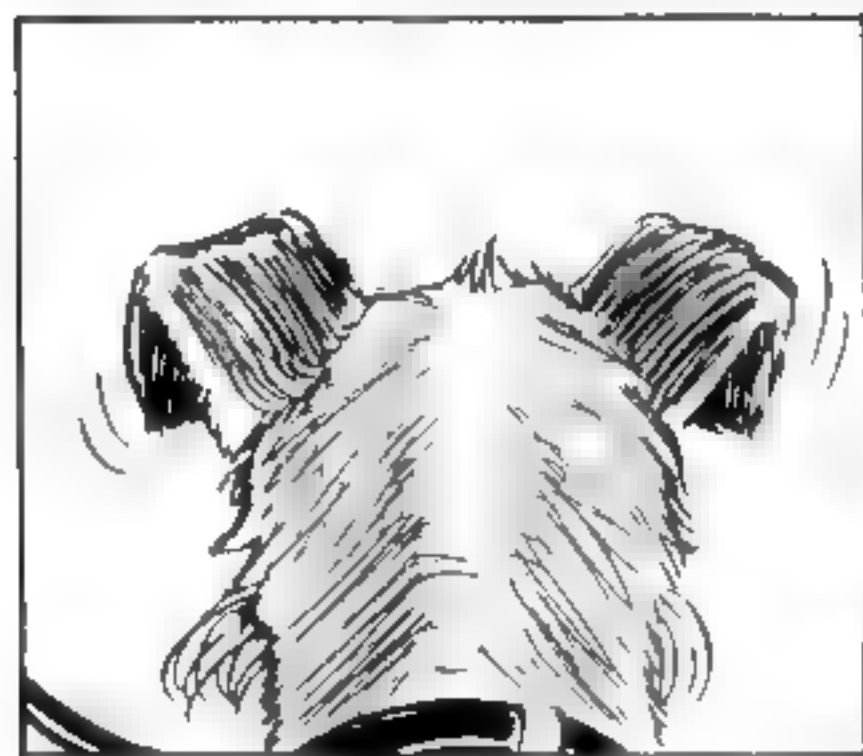


U-UH
HUH...

YOU CAN
ALWAYS PLAY
AGAIN IN THE
EVENING.

YOU'D
BETTER TAKE
SOME COVER
FROM THE SUN
BEFORE IT
RUINS THAT
DELICATE BAL-
ANCE.





BLUE GIANT 1





MAYBE THAT'S
WHY I STILL
REMEMBER THE
FIRST TIME THAT
I MET HIM.



I THINK IT WAS
THE HOTTEST
DAY OF THE
YEAR...



WHEN THAT DOG
DIED, HE PLAYED
ME A SONG
CALLED "BARNUM
LOVE."



I HAD A DOG
BACK THEN.
UHHM... RIGHT,
ITS NAME WAS
BARNUM.



OR HOW
SHOULD I PUT
IT... MM, IT
TRULY WAS A
MASTERPIECE.

THAT WAS
A MASTER-
PIECE AL-
RIGHT...



"BARNUM
LOVE,"
THERE ON
THE RIVER
BANK.

HA
HA
HA...



STANDING
THERE SINGING
RIGHT BESIDE
HIM, I THOUGHT
MY EARDRUMS
WERE GOING
TO POP.



THAT GIG IN
SENDAI REALLY
CAUGHT ME OFF
GUARD.



MAKING A
"HELP MEEEE"
KIND OF
FACE.



THE
CUSTOM-
ERS ALL
WENT LIKE
THIS,



IT'S ALL
MY SPECIAL
LITTLE TREA-
SURE NOW.

I'VE ALWAYS
KEPT ON
THINKING THAT
I DID A STUPID
THING BACK
THEN...



THAT A
SAX COULD
PRODUCE
SUCH A HUGE
SOUND.

BUT YOU
KNOW,
I DIDN'T
REALIZE IT
AT THE TIME,



I LOVED
HIM FROM
THE FIRST
NOTE.



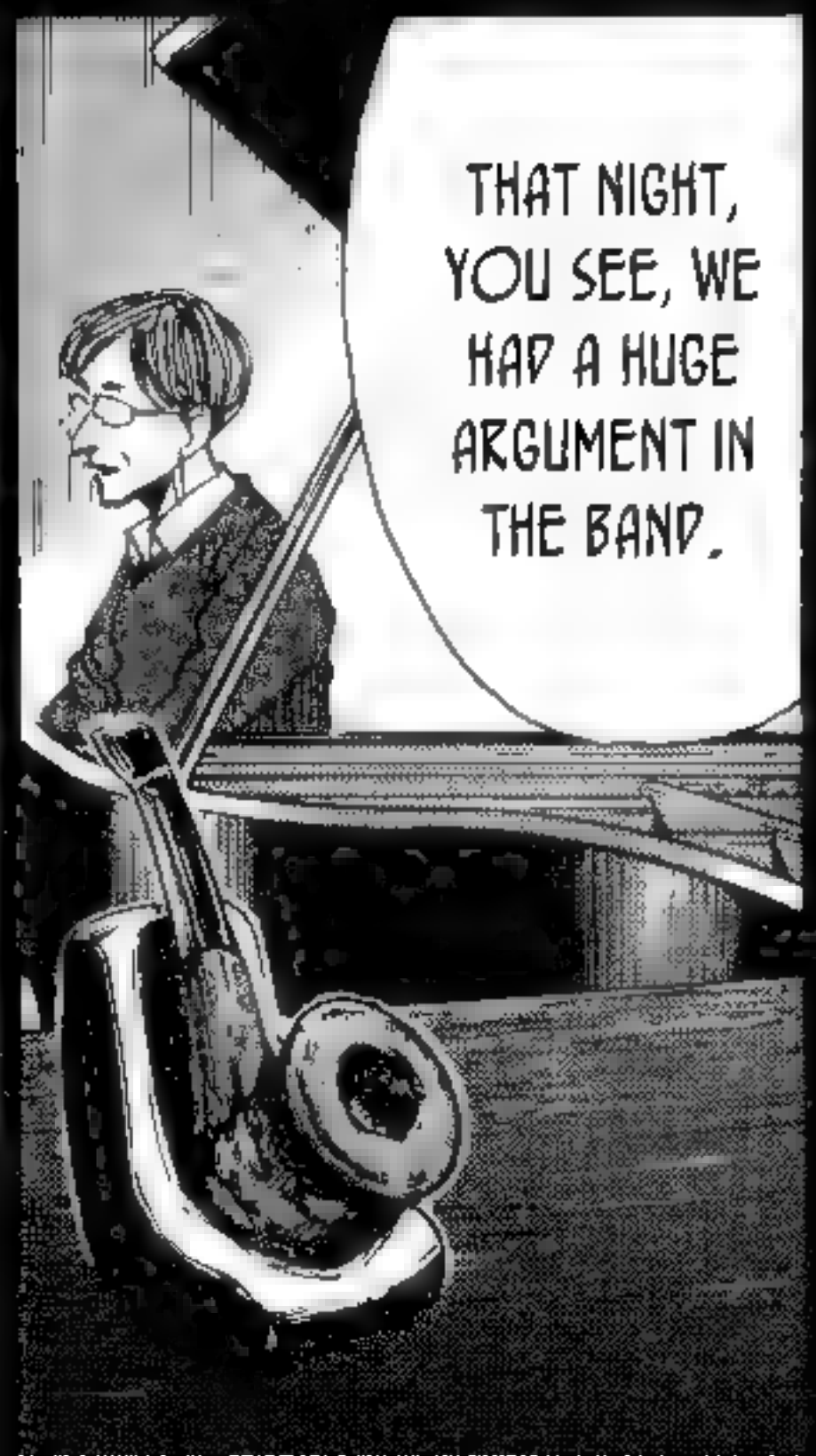
BUT
I LOVED
HIM FROM
THE FIRST
NOTE.

IT WAS A
FANTASTICAL-
LY MESSED UP
PERFOR-
MANCE,



"YOU DON'T
GET IT AT
ALL!!" STUFF
LIKE THAT.

"WHY
DID YOU
MAKE HIM
LEAVE?!"



THAT NIGHT,
YOU SEE, WE
HAD A HUGE
ARGUMENT IN
THE BAND.



I DISTANCED
MYSELF FROM
THE BAND AT
THE END OF
THAT NIGHT,

I WAS THE
ONLY ONE
ARGUING.

IT WAS
JUST
ME,



BUT BECAUSE
OF THAT, I WAS
ABLE TO PLAY
WITH HIM AGAIN.

IT STOPPED
BEING ABOUT
LOGIC. TOO
MUCH LOGIC IS
POINTLESS.

WHEN IT COMES
TO HIS SOUND,
I FEEL THAT HIS
LIKES AND DIS-
LIKES WERE THE
SAME AS HIS
PASSION.

YES, I WOULD
LOVE TO PLAY
WITH HIM AGAIN
SOMEDAY.

SHOULD
THE OP-
PORTUNITY
ARISE...

HM...
WELL,



I STILL CALL
HIM MY "LI'L
BIG BROTHER"
TO THIS DAY.

YES, OF
COURSE.



AH,



HM...

A
SECRET?



I
SHOULDN'T...

NAH...



...REALLY
SUCKS AT
KARAOKE.

MY
BROTHER...



BUT
DON'T
TELL HIM
I TOLD
YOU...

OKAY.



AND HE WENT
OUT OF HIS
WAY TO HOLD
A FAREWELL
PARTY FOR
ME.

I SUDDENLY
TRANSFERRED
TO ANOTHER
SCHOOL IN MY
SENIOR YEAR
OF HIGH
SCHOOL,



I HEARD HIM
PLAY HIS SAX-
OPHONE.

THAT
WAS
THE
FIRST
TIME



ALTHOUGH,
IT WAS JUST
THE TWO
OF US.



I'M NOT
SURE WHY,
BUT I CRIED.

BUT HE
MADE ME
CRY AL-
RIGHT...



I DIDN'T
KNOW A THING
ABOUT JAZZ
AND STUFF,



I BARGED
INTO THE IN-
STRUMENT
STORE AND
MADE HIM
GIVE IT TO
ME.

WHEN
HE WENT
OVER
THERE,

THIS
HERE?

AAH...



KNOWING
THAT HE'S
MY BEST
BUDDY,

SEEING HIM
WEARING THIS
HAT WHILE
PLAYING,



SURE WAS
AWESOME...



OMAKE of Blue

No.1

START





OMAKE of

We
went
to
Sendai.

Blue

No.2

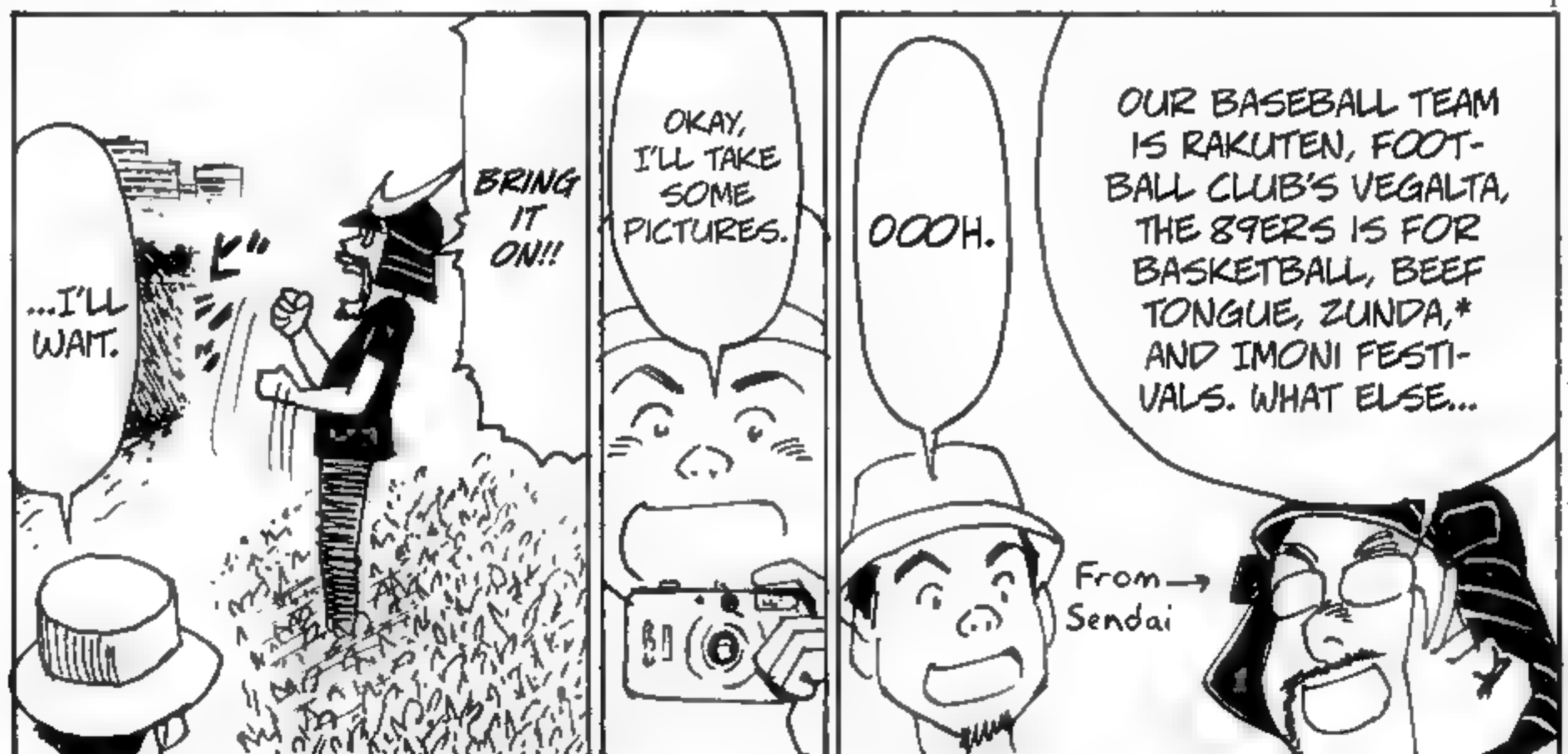
THIS
IS
IT!!



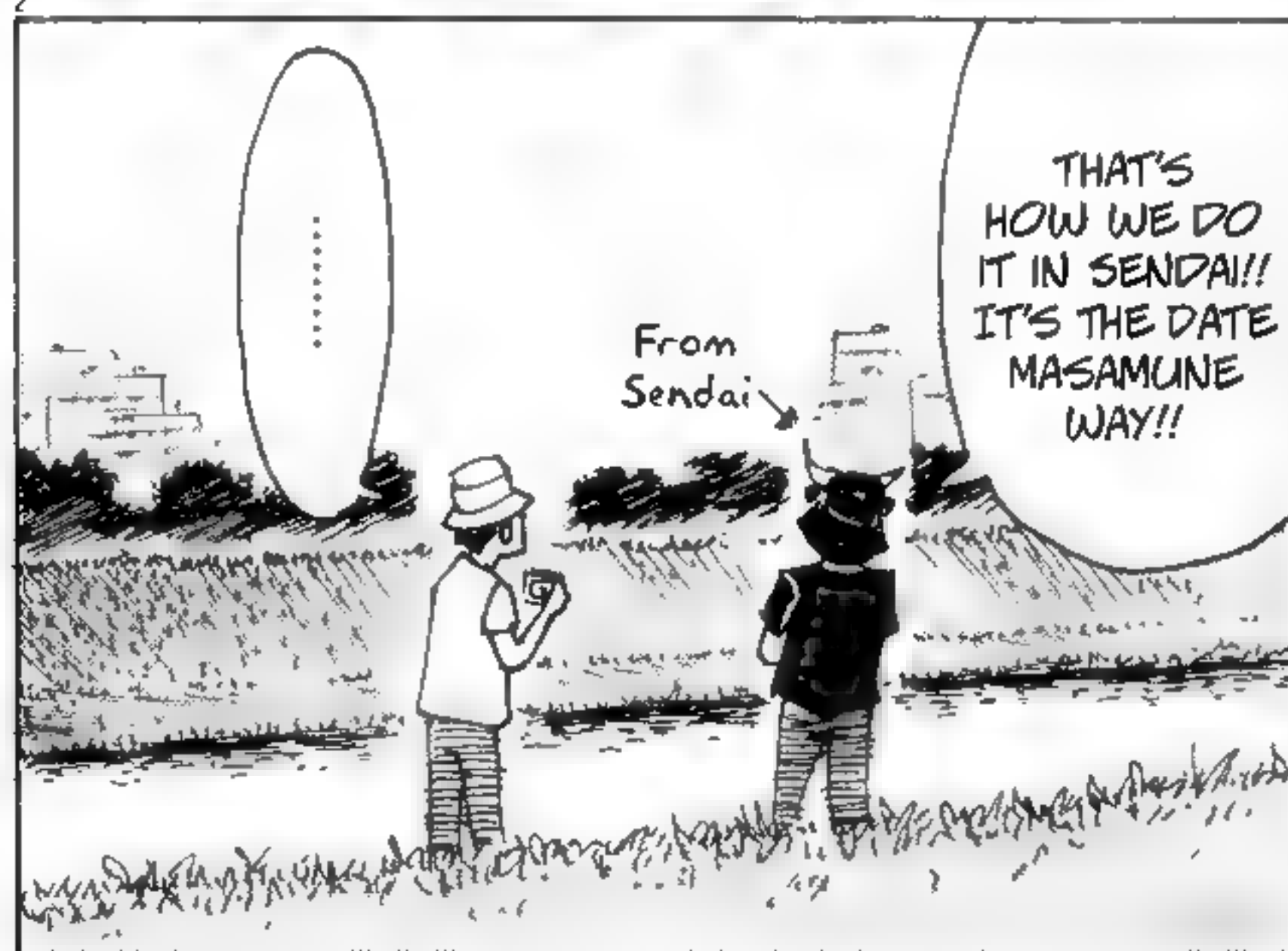
Mr.
Editor
in
Charge

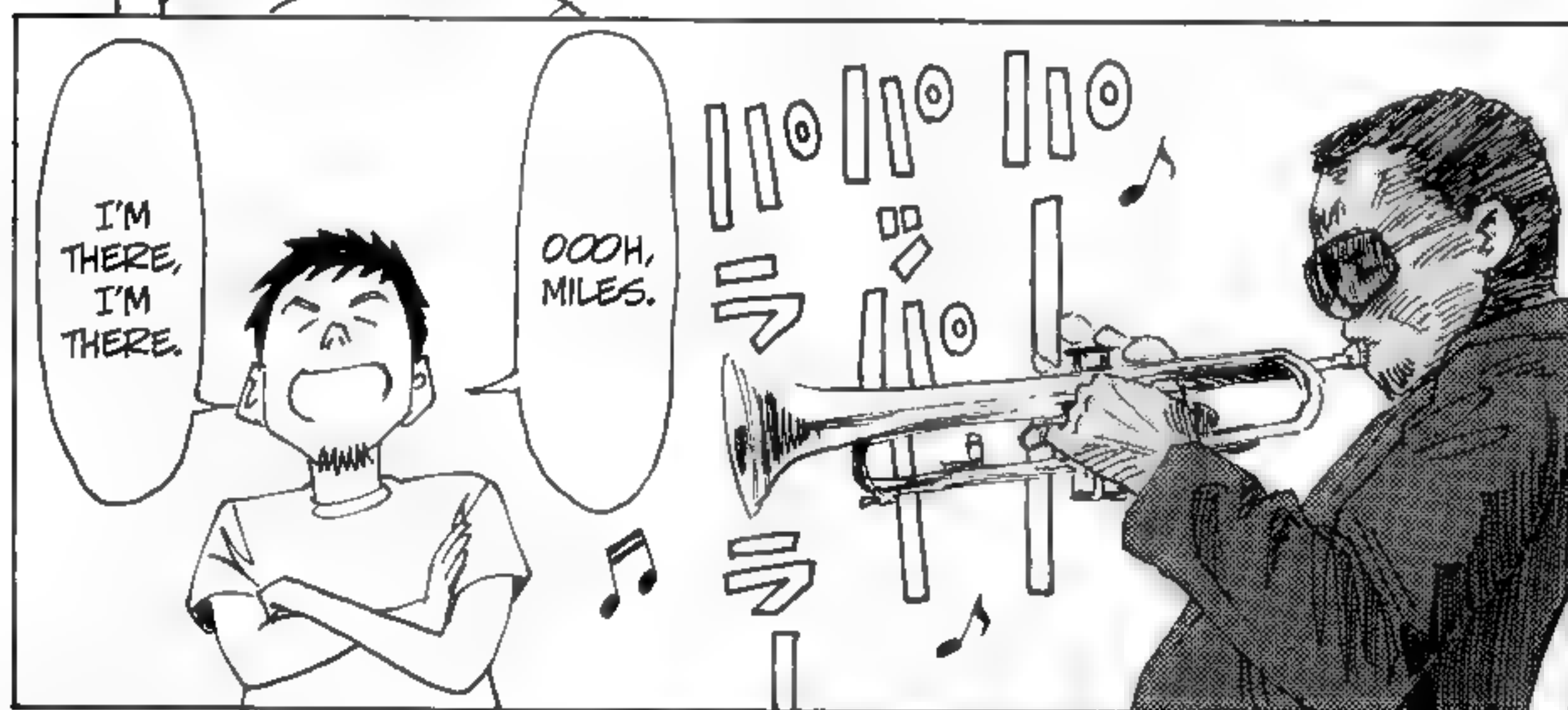


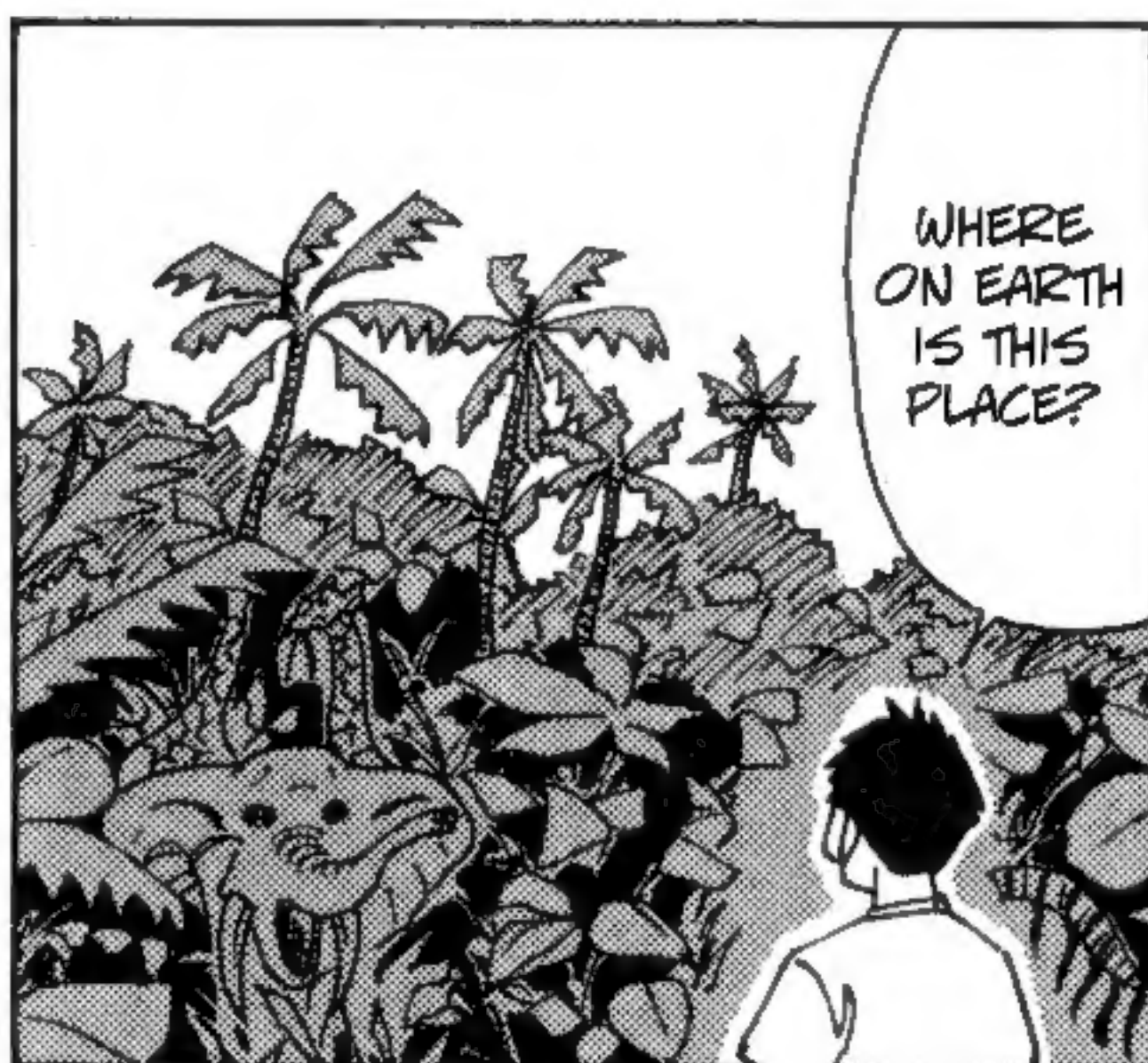
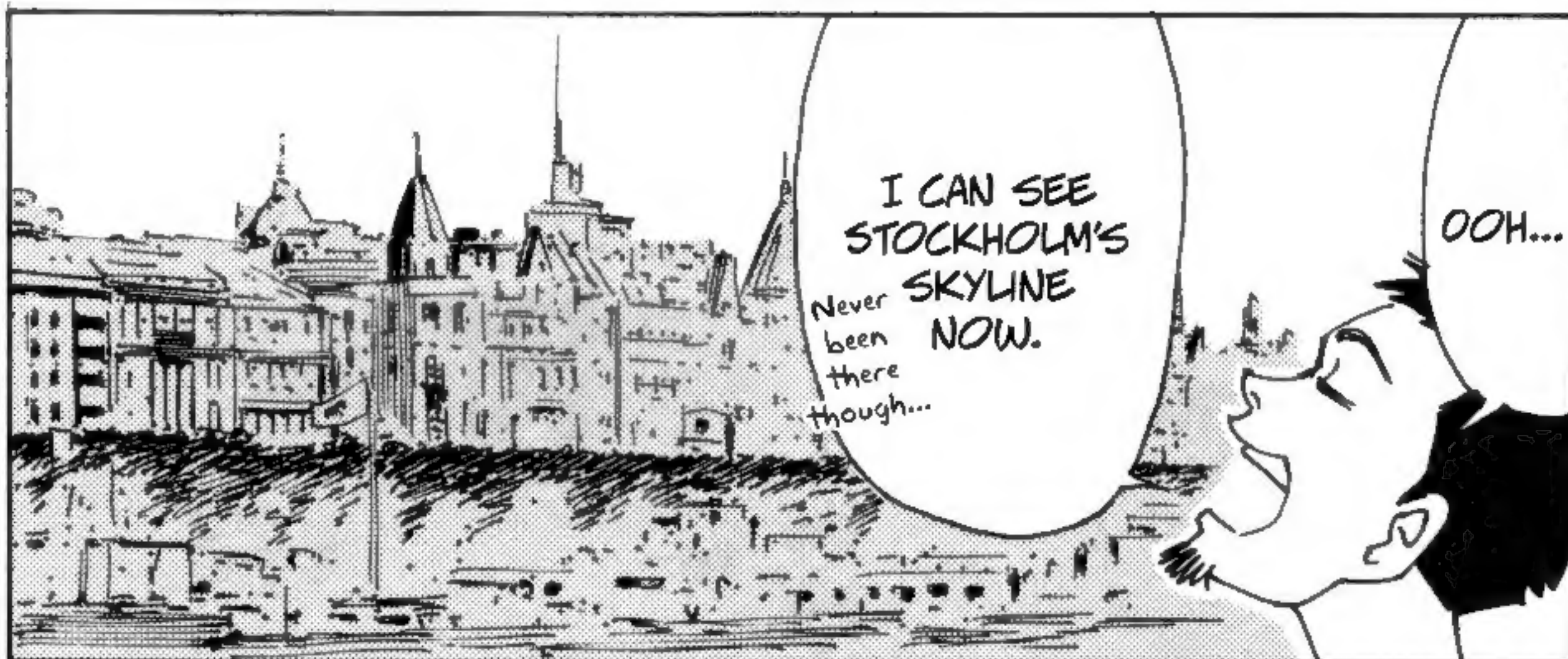
*TN
Mascot of
Miyagi
prefecture.
Its head
is made of
a rice ball
and is
wearing
Date Masa-
mune's
crescent-
shaped
helmet.



*TN: Zunda
is a sweet
paste made
of edama-
me
Imoni is
a type of
thick potato
and meat
soup eaten
traditionally
in the fall
in the
Touhoku
region.









Thank you for reading the first volume of Blue Giant. I'll keep on working hard!!



BLUE GIANT¹

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BY SHINICHI
ISHIZUKA



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